

CLAIMS

1. An applicator for surgical clips, said applicator comprising elongate tube means, said elongate tube means including means for attachment to an operating handle, said elongate tube means comprising an inner member and an outer member, said inner and outer members being slidable relative to each other, said inner member and said outer member being shaped to retain at least one surgical clip, said handle being operative to slide said inner member relative to said outer member, said inner and outer members having co-operating surfaces to cause said surgical clip to be forced from an open to a closed position on operation of said handle to slide said inner and outer members relative to each other.
2. An applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 1 in which said outer member comprises an elongate tube shaped at an end distal from said handle to retain said surgical clip.
- 20 3. An applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 2 in which said shape of said distal end of said outer member comprises an angled sloping platform on which said surgical clip rests, said sloping platform also comprising a raised flange forming stop means for said surgical clips.
- 25 4. An applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claims 1 to 3 in which said inner member comprises an elongate inner member, said elongate inner member comprising means for storing said multiplicity of surgical clips.

5. An applicator for surgical clips as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 4 in which said application comprises means for inducing said multiplicity of surgical clips down said elongate inner member.
- 5 6. An applicator for surgical clips as claimed in Claim 5 in which said elongate inner member preferably includes stop means operable to provide opposing mechanical forces to oppose the force on a surgical clip by said outer member to create closure of the clip.
- 10 7. A magazine storage system for an applicator for surgical clips, said magazine storage system comprising a plurality of surgical clips stored in a single column array within an elongate tube, said elongate tube comprising means at a proximal end thereof for attachment to a handle, said elongate tube means comprising an inner member and an outer member, said inner and outer members being slideable relative to each other, said inner and outer members being shaped to retain said plurality of surgical clips and said inner and outer members having at a distal end thereof co-operating surfaces shaped to cause said surgical clip to be forced from an open to a closed position when said inner and outer members are moved relative to each other.
- 15 20 25 8. A magazine storage system for an applicator as claimed in claim 7 including spring means positioned within said inner member, said spring means being operative to urge said plurality of surgical clips from said proximal to said distal end of said elongate tube.
9. A magazine storage system for an applicator as claimed in claim 8 in which said outer member comprises at the distal end a ledge shaped stop means to arrest movement of said plurality of surgical

clips, said ledge shaped stop means providing leverage to effect closure of said clip when said outer member is moved relative to said inner member.

5    10. A magazine storage system for an applicator for surgical clips as claimed in claim 9 in which a ratchet stop means is provided in said inner tube, said ratchet stop means being positioned between said spring means and said plurality of surgical clips. Said ratchet stop means being moveable by said spring means in a direction from said proximal to said distal end of said elongate tube, said ratchet stop means being co-operative with a corresponding ratchet means on said inner member to be prevented from movement in the opposite direction.

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15    11. An applicator for surgical clips substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

12. A magazine storage system for surgical clips substantially as described with reference to Figures 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11 of the accompanying drawings.

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